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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 00258 130502Z

14
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ARA-06 SCCT-01 EA-07 DHA-02 /092 W
---------- 063744
R 121036Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3585
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 0258

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR SO FT FR
SUBJECT: MOGADISCIO DIPLOMATS VISIT LOYADA

REF: MOGADISCIO 0247

1. IRANIAN CHARGE WHO TOURED LOYADA WITH MOGADISCIO DIPLOMATS ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 9 (MOGADISCIO 0247) SAID THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES SAW LITTLE TO SUBSTANTIATE SOMALI CLAIMS OF BRUTAL FRENCH AGGRESSION AT LOYADA ON FEBRUARY 4. HE SPENT HOUR AT LOYADA ON FEBRUARY 9 WITH GROUP OF HIS COLLEAGUES. GROUP WAS SHOWN HOUSES WITH FEW BULLET HOLES IN WALLS, BLOOD STAINS ON GROUND WHERE INDIVIDUAL
SOMALIS ALLEGEDLY SLAIN, AND BUS WITH SMASHED WINDOWS AND BLDG INTERIOR. THEY DID NOT RPT NOT SEE HOUSES FLATTENED OR DEMOLISHED, AS SOMALI MEDIA HAS ALLEGED.

2. NOTWITHSTANDING PAUCITY OF EVIDENCE TO SUBSTANTIATE SOMALI CLAIMS, HE SAID THAT CUBAN AND FEW OTHER BLOC DIPLOMATS MADE STATEMENTS TO LOCAL PRESS AT AIRPORT UPON THEIR RETURN CHASTISING FRENH FOR BRUTAL ASSULT AT LOYADA.

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3. WESTERN DIPLOMATS WERE EXCLUDED FROM TOUR. SOMALI GOVERNMENT

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INVITED AMBASSADORS OR CHIEFS OF MISSION FROM ARAB AND SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS IRANIAN CHARGE. AMBASSADORS FROM EGYPT, CHINA, PDRY, SUDAN, INDIA, PAKISTAN PARTICIPATED; SO DID DIPLOMATS FROM SOVIET UNION, CUBA, EAST GERMANY, BULGARIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, NORTH KOREA, VIETNAM, IRAQ, NIGER
A, NORTH YEMEN, PLO, QATAR, AND
LIBYA. CORRESPONDENTS FROM REUTERS, TASS, AND ARAB NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPRESENTED.

4. ENTIRE GROUP WAS FLOWN TO HARGEISA MORNING OF FEBRUARY 9. AMBASSADORS IN GROUP WERE FLOWN TO ZEILA BY HELICOPTER SAME DAY, THEN WENT ON TO LOYADA BY LANDROVER, SPENT HOUR AT SITE, THEN RETURNED TO HARGEISA IN AFTERNOON. REMAINING DIPLOMATS AND JOURNALISTS IN GROUP WERE FERRIED TO LOYADA IN SAME MANNER FOLLOWING DAY AND ENTIRE GROUP WAS RETURNED TO MOGADISCIO ON FEB 10.
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